

Sawin House Study Committee

June 9, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Blott Meeting Room, Town Hall

MINUTES

APPROVED 6/16/15

Present: Stephen Evers, Randy Johnson, Chris Milford, John Moran, Jan Parsons, George Sawin, Ken Soderholm, Amy Ward, Jim Williamson, Bats Wheeler, representing Mass Audubon in discussion.

Absent: Elissa Landre, Mike Linehan, Steve Roche, Wayne Szretter

Members of the public: Jim Morley, Ken Van Blarcom.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair Ken Soderholm.

Minutes from 6/02/15 were reviewed and approved with additions. Motion to approve, by Mr. Moran; second by Mr. Milford. Unanimous approval.

Discussion of proxy votes. The chair stated that while straw votes were taken last week with Mr. Van Blarcom representing the Friends of Shaw Park, no votes will be taken tonight with the property owner absent. Mr. Wheeler will represent Mass Audubon for discussion purposes.

Discussion turned to the work on the final report reviewing the June 3 update of Mr. Szretter's proposed final report. Mr. Williamson suggested that a detailed report of the Sawin House committee work should be in the Annual Natick Town Report, next Spring. Mr. Milford proposed edits to the paragraph addressing the history and condition of the building. After discussion, Mr. Milford's suggested wording clarifying the 1830s date of the existing structure was adopted. Ms. Ward requested that the committee ask Town Meeting for funds to facilitate action on whatever action this committee proposes. Discussion followed with no action taken at this time. Assistance from the town could be in the form of money or in kind services. The report needs to be finished first and then motions will be voted on. Discussion of whether the votes and recommendation should be in the executive summary. Inclusion of the proposed placement of a replica of the Sawin House at Shaw Park was discussed.

Mr. Moran questioned why committee members representing town committees were abstaining from certain straw votes. After discussion, it was decided that the Chair will seek clarification from the Town Moderator of the advisability of committee members representing town committees voting on aspects of the report which may later come before the relevant Committee.

Next steps: Committee members are asked to continue submitting edits for next week's meeting. Goal is to wrap up the report and major work by June 23.

Next meeting: Tuesday June 16, 2015 at the Dlott meeting room in the Natick Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM, by Mr. Williamson. Second by Mr. Johnson. Unanimous approval.